

Flash Eurobarometer 557

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU



Problems encountered when doing business

Although not ranked among the top concerns, corruption is a problem for more than a third of European companies
(-2 percentage points compared to 2024)

Ranking of problems for European companies when doing business in their country

Complexity of administrative procedures **66%**

Inadequate infrastructure **39%**

Fast-changing legislation and policies **64%**

Patronage and nepotism **36%**

Tax rates **63%**

Access to financing, including credits **35%**

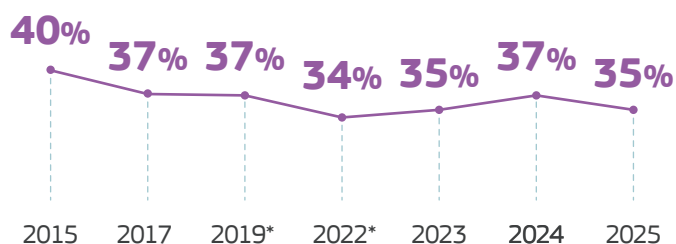
Restrictive labour regulations **46%**

Corruption **35%**

Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others **42%**



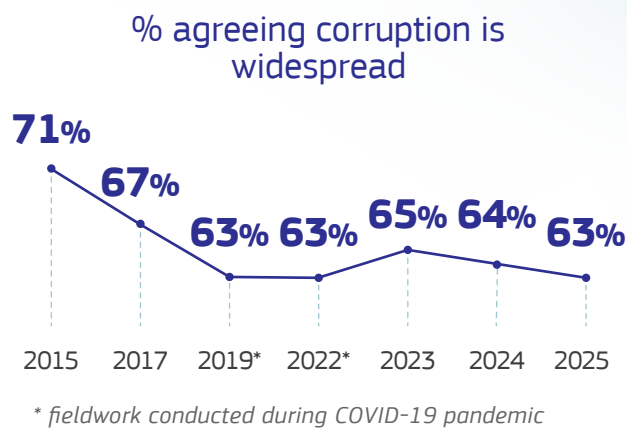
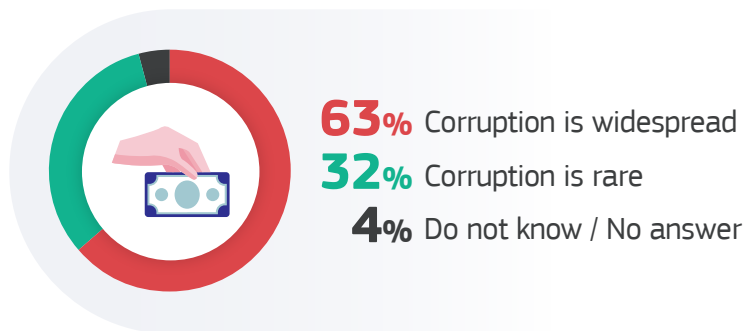
% considering corruption to be a problem
when doing business



* fieldwork conducted during COVID-19 pandemic

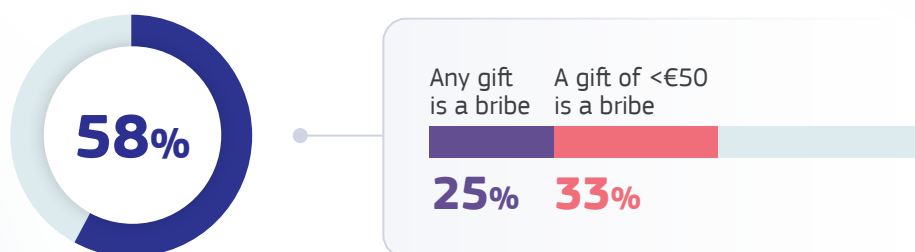
Perceived level of corruption

A majority of companies think corruption is widespread in their country
(-1 percentage point compared to 2024)



Opinions on gifts and bribes

Even small gifts are considered a bribe by European companies



Opinions on most widespread corruptive practices

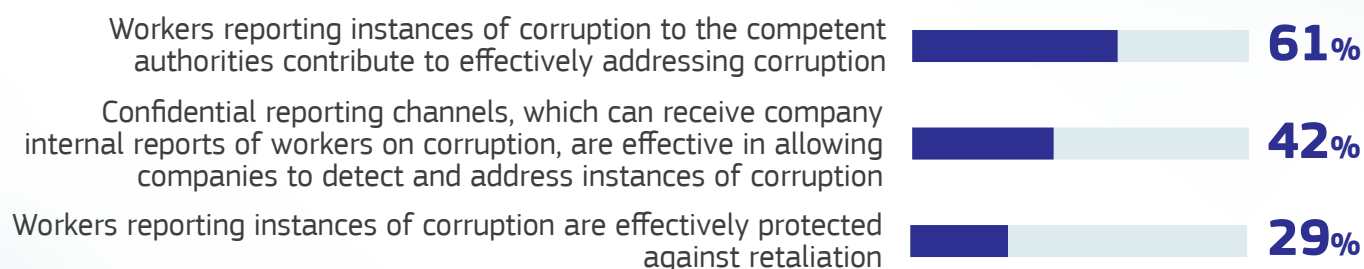
Top three perceived most widespread corruptive practices



(Companies were asked to select up to three types of corruption from a list of seven.)

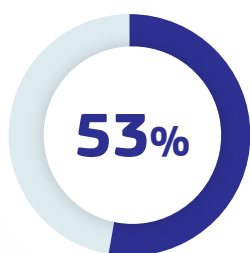
Whistleblowing

Share of European companies agreeing that...



Opinions on how corruption is tackled

A majority of companies disagree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country



% of companies considering it likely that in their country companies engaging in corrupt practices would...

